

As of May 5, 4,277 trees have been removed from the Middlesex/Union ALB quarantine area. Of those, 507 were infested host trees and 3,770 were high-risk exposed host trees. Crews continued removing trees this week in areas of Carteret, Rahway and Woodbridge.

Currently, 14 program personnel from USDA APHIS PPQ, NJDA, NJ Forest Service are performing survey, control and regulatory activities. Eighteen USDA Forest Service Smokejumpers, continue to survey trees in the Middlesex/Union ALB quarantine. To date, a total of 15,370 trees have been inspected.

Program personnel continue to make preparations for tree treatments in the Middlesex/Union Counties ALB quarantine area. Treatments are slated to start May 16 with approximately 20,200 trees to be treated with the insecticide imidacloprid. The insecticide will be injected into the tree's trunk or into the soil surrounding the tree.

On May 2, Barry Emens, USDA-APHIS ALB New Jersey Program Director, and Pam Zipse, forester with New Jersey State Forestry and Parks Division, met with the Carteret Environmental Commission to update them on the tree removal process and reforestation activities taking place in Carteret. To date, 66 non-host trees have been planted in the West Carteret area of the removal zone.

On May 2, the tub grinder used to chip up the large logs generated from the tree removals being conducted in the Middlesex/Union ALB infestation area was placed into operation. To date, 2,260 tons of chips harvested from the grinder have been sent to Covanta Energy, the company running the Rahway incinerator, to be burned.

#### Jersey City/Hoboken ALB Infestation

Four program personnel continue to perform survey and regulatory activities in the Jersey City/Hoboken ALB quarantine area. To date 917 host trees has been surveyed with no signs of ALB.

#### **Recognition Award:**

On May 2, members of the New Jersey ALB Cooperative Eradication Program were honored during the New Jersey State Public Service Recognition Awards Ceremony, with the Teamwork/Partnership Achievement Award for the Department of Agriculture. The ALB Program Team was recognized as a model of interagency cooperation with its multidisciplinary, multi-agency team comprised of New Jersey Department of Agriculture staff, Department of Environmental Protection, New Jersey Forest Service Staff, and USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine officers, who work together in surveying and carrying out an eradication program to halt the spread of this dangerous foreign pest.